GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3815
ANSWERED ON:16.12.2011
JOINT RESEARCH ON RENEWABLE ENERGY
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Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of India and the United States of America (USA) have recently signed an agreement for joint research on renewable energy;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the priority areas to be taken up under such joint research, including non-solar renewable energy technologies;

(c) the benefits accruing India as a result of this joint venture; and

(d) the details of the formal plan for rapid dissemination and uptake of the outcomes of the joint research by the Indian industries and R&D institutions?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY(DR. FAROOQ ABDULLAH)

(a): Yes Madam; an Agreement between the Planning Commission of the Republic of India and the Department of Energy of the United States of America for Cooperation on A Joint Clean Energy Research and Development Centre was signed on 4th November, 2010.

(b): The priority areas indentified are:

(i) Solar Energy

(ii) Second Generation Biofuels

(iii) Building Efficiency

(c): The Joint Clean Energy Research and Development Centre (JCERDC) will facilitate Joint Research and Development on Clean Energy by teams of scientists and engineers that will help accelerate development and more rapid deployment of critical technologies for renewable energy. This will benefit India in expanding collaboration within scientific communities and create opportunities for cooperation between two countries on clean energy technologies.

The Center will involve active participation of academic and private sectors of both countries working in a consortia mode. The consortium will be self-selecting teams with entitities or individuals from national labs, academic institutions, private sector, NGOs etc. Awards will be made to consortia which have knowledge and experience to undertake first rate collaborative research programs. The consortia will leverage existing resources and physical infrastructure and bring together talent from both countries.

(d): The Government of India and US Department of Energy have agreed to provide US $ 5 Million each annually for five years to support the collaborative activities under the JCERDC. The centre will receive private funding to match both GOI and US Department of Energy funding. A funding opportunity announcement for Joint Proposals along with the USA DoE has already made. Applications have been received and the selection process is under way.